

CLASSIFICATION ~~SECRET~~COUNTRY East Germany

REPORT

TOPIC Military Activity in the 8th Gds Mech Div Area

EVALUATION

PLACE OBTAINED

DATE OF CONTENT

DATE OBTAINED

DATE PREPARED 26 August 1954

REFERENCES

PAGES 2 ENCLOSURES (NO. & TYPE)

REMARKS

This is UNEVALUATED

1. On 9 July 1954, a unit from Strassburg Kaserne was entrained toward Dresden at the Oederer Bahnhof in Grimma. The unit included 6 armored personnel carriers towing 6 x 57-mm AT guns another 2 x 57-mm AT guns, 4 mortars of about 85 mm and an undetermined number of trucks. On 30 July, the unit returned to Grimma by rail. Between 9 and 30 July, the Strassburg Kaserne was occupied by 600 to 800 soldiers wearing red-bordered black epaulets including some with artillery insignia. No soldiers with tank insignia were observed during this period.
2. On 6 August, three shipments were loaded at the Oberer Bahnhof in Grimma. They included:
At 1730, armored personnel carriers, trucks, ambulances, radio trucks, and 57-mm AT guns on about 50 railroad cars, which left toward Leipzig.
At about 2030, 19 armored personnel carriers and towing 6 x 57-mm AT guns and 3 heavy machine guns, 3 trucks with ammunition and 1 ambulance, which left toward Leipzig.
At 2215, armored personnel carriers.
Between 7 and 10 August, the east section of Strassburg Kaserne was occupied by about 250 soldiers and the west section was occupied by about 100 soldiers. 1
3. On 9 July, a unit with 33 trucks including 5 radio trucks and 2 tank trucks, 1 ambulance, 4 sedans, and 4 armored personnel carriers arrived at Elsner Kaserne (1402) in Grimma from the direction of Oschatz. Between 14 July and 10 August, the installation was occupied by about 200 soldiers of a signal and engineer unit. 2
4. In the evening on 29 July, a conference was held at the Haus der Offiziere (officers' building) in Grimma. Numerous officers participated in the meeting. A general arrived there in sedan
5. On 9 July, the engineer training site on the Mulde River southeast of Grimma was completely flooded. The area was still flooded on 19 July. A considerable amount of engineer equipment was destroyed. In early August, engineer soldiers were driving piles in the training area.

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6. Between 18 and 25 July, the Friedrich-August Kaserne (1541) in Leipzig was partially occupied and, on 12 August, the installation was occupied about 65 percent. Between 18 July and 12 August, the Von-der-Busche Kaserne (1542) was occupied as previously by a small rear detail. At 1725 on 12 August, 6 trucks [redacted] and towing 57-mm AA guns, and 1 tank truck left the Friedrich-August Kaserne toward Fischendorf. The column returned at about 2300.
7. On 21 and 30 July, the barracks installation in Borna (1161) was occupied by a rear detail of 40 to 50 soldiers.
8. Between 21 and 31 July, the barracks installation in Leipzig-Heiterblick was occupied by about 700 soldiers who wore red-bordered black epaulets with tank and motor transport insignia. On 26 July, T-34 tanks [redacted] and, on 28 July, 26 new armored personnel carriers were unloaded, the latter from a train which arrived from Frankfurt/Oder. The material was bound for the Heiterblick barracks.
9. Between 19 and 30 July, the barracks installation in Leipzig-Schoennau (8241) was occupied by 200 to 300 soldiers wearing red-bordered black epaulets with artillery and motor transport insignia. An M-13 rocket launcher and several armored personnel carriers [redacted] were seen in the yard or in the vicinity of the installation.
10. On 5 August, the barracks installation in Leipzig-Heiterblick was occupied by 400 to 500 soldiers wearing red-bordered black epaulets including some with tank insignia. On 7 August, the installation in Leipzig-Schoennau was occupied by 500 to 600 soldiers wearing red-bordered black epaulets with artillery insignia. Little training was observed in the two installations.
1. Comment. A small unit of the 21st Gds Mech Regt of the 8th Gds Mech Div had been at the Koenigsbrueck troop training grounds from 9 to 30 July; major elements of the regiment probably moved there on 6 August.
2. Comment. The 133d Gds Engr Bn and the 155th Gds Sig Bn were apparently still stationed in Elsner Kaserne in early August.
3. Comment. Observations at the three posts indicate that the majority of the units of the 8th Gds Mech Div were stationed in Koenigsbrueck in early August.

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